

Minutes of Environmental Resources Committee Sept 2 2021

Present: Douglas Smith, Diane Lamson, Alicia Howes, Sarah Rodriques, Dick Allen, Lauren Jordan, Laura Fraelich, Joanne McKee

Meeting came to order at 5:30pm
August minutes were approved with no changes

Parks and Recreation: Sarah

P&R spent August planning and putting on the Community Fair on Aug 21. Now the focus has shifted to the start of the school year, and Fall GNG programs. Schedules are being fine tuned and will be available soon

The ERC has spent \$150 total

Sabbathday Lake Assoc: Dick

The summer monitoring of the lake is done and a 'disk 'test showed that water quality remains good. There are no significant worries regarding invasive species in the lake. Talk continues about finding volunteers to help monitor for invasives in SL and other local water bodies as well. Doug suggested a program to train members of the ERC in invasive species identification. Sarah suggests she could help find volunteers.

Election of Officers:

The ERC thanked Joanne for her 11 years on the committee and for all of her achievements in that time. Joanne has stepped down from the committee effective immediately

Officers elected following discussion, motions, seconds of the motions, and voting: Chair: Doug Smith

Vice Chair: Lauren Jordan

Secretary: Dick Allen (effective at the time the select board approves his application to be on the committee)

Diane will serve as acting secretary for Sept

Lower Village Project Update: Alan Sterns RRCT

Alan made a brief presentation and asked how the ERC sees its relationship with the RRCT and the Lower Village Project. There has been some negative feedback from what he considers a vocal minority and he would like to get feedback from a larger pool of the community. Sarah suggested the ERC along with the Town Planner could collect data through surveys.

The motion was made to commit the ERC to working with the RRCT in gathering public input and working towards a plan for the lower village project. The motion was seconded and approved.

Community Fair Debrief:

35 raffle tickets taken in. Winners were called and prizes left at the library for pick up at their convenience.

Sarah suggested the ERC consider having a more active impact at the next fair, with more circulation around the event outside the booth set up. Recycling and composting could be more of a hands on process as opposed to just educational.

Recycling Proposal: Lauren

the proposal for the Composting and the Textile recycling initiatives will be on the agenda for the Sept 20 Selectboard meeting. Lauren and Doug will attend and other members are encouraged to go as well.

Town Garden Oversight:

Given Joanne has stepped down, a new coordinator will be needed. Alicia has agreed to assume that role and volunteers will be available from a few different sources, including the ERC and high school students

New Business

Doug emphasized the value of members continuing to look for ongoing educational opportunities such as aquatic invasives, brown tail moths, etc

A quarterly or monthly update report was suggested to inform residents of progress, action and developments of the ERC. To be included might be a fun challenge, contest or trivia at the end of the brief write up to inform residents and make it engaging. Communication outlets would be NGX, Parks and Red page and Library Bulletin Board. Lauren is willing to write one to get it started.

Next meeting scheduled for October 7 Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

Respectively submitted
Diane Lamson (acting Secretary)

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